## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 06570 070649Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /057 W

-----071833Z 066869 /73

R 061257Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3243

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMCONSUL MADRAS

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PINT IN

SUBJECT: CFD CONVENTION APPROVES MERGER INTO JANATA

REF: NEW DELHI 6296

1. AT ITS FIRST (AND LAST) NATIONAL CONVENTION IN DELHI
ON MAY 5, THE 13 WEEK-OLD CONGRESS FOR DEMOCRACY RATIFIED
JAGJIVAN RAM'S MAY 1 DECISION (REFTEL) TO MERGE
THE PARTY INTO THE JANATA. THE ONLY DISSENTING VOICE
WAS THAT OF K. R. GANESH, A FORMER MEMBER OF MRS.
GANDHI'S CABINET WHO DEFECTED WITH RAM AND BAHUGUNA
ON FEBRUARY 2. THE DELEGATED TO THE CONVENTION AUTHORIZED
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RAM TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE JANATA LEADERSHIP FOR THE CFD'S MERGER INTO THE RULING PARTY AT ALL LEVELS.

2. COMMENT: THE RATIFICATION BY THE DELEGATED WAS A PRO-FORMA MOVE THAT NOW APPEARS TO RESOLVE AN OUTSTANDING QUESTION WHICH HAD BEEN PLAGUING JANATA/CFD RELATIONSHIPS

SINCE THE MARCH VICTORY. RAM AND BAHUGUNA'S INSISTENCE ON MAINTAINING THE CFD'S SEPARATE IDENTITY HAD BEGUN TO AROUSE RESENTMENTS IN THE RULING PARTY. WITH THE ISSUE NOW APPARENTLY RESOLVED, THE JANATA LEADERSHIP CAN NAME THE TEN REMAINING MEMBERS OF THE 40- MEMBER JANATA WORKING COMMITTEE. THE BULK OF THESE TEN ARE LIKELY TO COME FROM THE CFD. SCHNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

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